

R E M A R K S

By this Amendment claims 1 and 8 have been amended to address the examiner's formality rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112 and to better define the invention. Entry is requested.

In the outstanding final Office Action the examiner has rejected claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Uchiyama in view of Umstetter et al. (newly cited).

It is asserted that this rejection cannot apply to the amended claims.

The examiner asserts that Uchiyama teaches a communication system "comprising two input output units, each of said input/output units comprising a first connector for connection of a communication line thereto..." The inventor does not agree that both of the two input/output units comprise a first connector for connection of a communication line thereto. The cordless unit 6 of Figs. 1 and 4 only has a power supply line coupled thereto through the base station. Thus, a connector for connection of a communication line thereto is not disclosed in Uchiyama. The cordless unit 6 in Uchiyama communicates with the base station through a wireless connection and has no connector for wired connection of a communication line thereto. In Umstetter et al. none of the cordless handsets disclosed are provided with connectors for wired connection of a communication line thereto.

A combination of the disclosures of the two patents would thus not suggest the presently claimed invention. If a person of ordinary skill in this art, knowing the disclosure of Uchiyama, were to seek a solution to the problem of achieving sufficient battery life time without sacrifice to weight and size of the input/output units, there would be no teaching in Umstetter et al. which could lead him to a solution comprising two handset each having a connector for connection of a communication line thereto, along with the further elements recited in claim 1 allowing each input/output unit to function as base station while at the same time recharging the battery. In fact, neither of the two patents disclose a portable input/output unit which has both a wired connector for connection to the stationary communication line, and a transmitter and receiver for communicating wireless a communication line signal in one direction from the input/output device to a second input/output device. In both patents only the stationary base station has both a connector for connection to the stationary communication line and transmitter and receiver for communicating wireless a communication line signal received from the communication line in one direction to a second input/output device. Adding the disclosure of the two patents would not bring about such a portable input/output unit.

Favorable reevaluation of the claims is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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